

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN EUR-25

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TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

S E C R E T STATE 069967

E. O. 11562: GDS

TAGS: MARR IC

SUBJECT: ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE ISSUE

REF: REYKJAVIK (A) 380; (B) 310

FOR AMBASSADOR

IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY RAISED IN REF (A) THAT WE MIGHT
BE ABLE TO PREVENT AGUSTSSON' S INVOKING ARTICLE VII OF
DEFENSE AGREEMENT IF WE CAN FIND A FORMULA TO HELP
AGUSTSSON CONVINCE ANTI- IDF ELEMENTS THAT HE IS FORCING
REDUCTIONS IN US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ICELAND WE WOULD
LIKE TO HAVE YOUR EVALUATION ON THE FOLLOWING. WOULD IT
BE USEFUL IF YOU WEREABLE TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH
AGUSTSSON SHORTLY ON QUESTIONS CLOSE TO HEART OF ICELANDERS,
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I. E. (1) ICELANDIZATION; (2) AIRPORT ACCESS; AND (3)
BASE TV? IN VIEW OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS SINCE REF (B), WOULD
YOU STILL HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT FURNISHING AGUSTSSON,
WHOSE GOVERNMENT MAY BE IN TERMINAL STAGE, DETAILED IN-
FORMATION ON ICELANDIZATION THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR
TALKS? SINCE ANY NEW GOVERNMENT THAT WOULD SUCCEED PRESENT
COALITION CAN BE EXPECTED TO MAKE SAME DEMANDS IT IS CLEAR
THAT CONCESSIONS MADE TO AGUSTSSON WOULD AUTOMATICALLY
ACCRUE TO SUCCESSOR. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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